· In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 7 and 12. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - ii).

1.   (Five Times Amended) In a computer system having (i) a working memory in which application programs are executed, and (ii) an operating system including a file manager for managing files of application programs executed in the working memory, internal file characteristics and file image preview apparatus comprising:

an extension coupled to the operating system in a manner such that the extension is entirely integrated with the operating system, the extension sharing a user interface with the operating system, the extension enabling user selection of a desired file and in response to user selection of the desired file, the extension enabling display of a recitation of indicia of internal file characteristics separate from the file image and the file image of the desired file by opening the desired file in a manner free of opening an application program in working memory and hence external to application programs in the working memory, and in a manner free of decoding the indicia of internal file characteristics from a filename of the desired file; and

a display assembly responsive to the extension for displaying the recitation of indicia of internal file characteristics separate from the file image and the file image of the user-selected desired file by opening the desired file in a manner free of opening an application program in working memory, and in a manner free of decoding the indicia of internal file characteristics from a filename of the desired file, such that a preview of the user-selected desired file is provided.

7.   (Five Times Amended) In a computer system having (i) an operating system and (ii) a working memory for executing application programs, internal file characteristics and file image previewing apparatus comprising:

a file manager coupled to the operating system, including sharing a user interface with the operating system, the file manager (a) managing files generated by application programs executed in the working memory and (b) enabling display of indicia of internal

file characteristics and file image of a user-selected file by opening the desired file, said file manager being coupled to the operating system in a manner such that said display of indicia of internal file characteristics separate from the file image and the file image is generated outside of an application program opened and running in the working memory and hence external to application programs in the working memory, and in a manner free of decoding the indicia of internal file characteristics from a filename of the desired file; and

a display assembly responsive to the file manager for displaying indicia of internal file characteristics and the file image of the user-selected file by opening the desired file, outside of an application program opened and running in working memory, and in a manner free of decoding the indicia of internal file characteristics from a filename of the desired file, said display assembly thus providing a preview of the user-selected file.

12.   (Five Times Amended) In a computer system, a method of displaying internal file characteristics and file images of a user-selected file, to provide a preview of the file, comprising the steps of:

providing a working memory for executing application programs;

executing application programs in said working memory in response to user command, said execution of the application program generating files of the computer system;

providing operating system means for enabling display of indicia of internal file characteristics separate from the file image and the file images of a file selected by a user by opening the file, the operating system means sharing a user interface with other operating system means and enabling display of the internal file characteristics and the file images outside of an application program opened and running in the working memory; and

in a manner free of opening and running an application program in the working memory, and in a manner free of decoding the [indication] indicia of internal file characteristics from a filename of the desired file, displaying the indicia of internal file